

FY 2018 GRANT REVIEW PANEL MEETING MINUTES

Grant Type: General Operating Support

Panel Meeting Date: May 9, 2017

Panel Members Present: Arreon Harley, Wilmington
Esther Lovlie, New Castle
Lynette Overby, Newark
Karen Rege, Wilmington
Michael Quattrociocchi, Milford (DSAC)
Jenifer Sandonato, Bear
Sara Zimmerman, Dover

Panel Members Absent: none

DE State Arts Council Chair: David Fleming, Wilmington (DSAC)

Staff Members Present: Kristin Pleasanton, Deputy Director
Katie West, Program Officer
Leeann Wallett, Program Officer
Gwen Henderson, Administrative Specialist
Dana Wise, Office Manager

Location: Dover Public Library, Dover, DE

Meeting Started: 9:30 a.m.

The grant review panel convened to evaluate applications for funding from the organizations listed below, based on pre-established criteria and scoring rubrics. Applications from non-profit arts organizations were considered for support of annual operating expenses. The grant panel, made up of citizens from around the state, reviewed the applications in advance. At the meeting, the panel chair asked panelists to provide an objective and consistent evaluation of each applicant's project/program and to measure each application against the criteria in the grant application guidelines.

Panelists/staff recused from discussion of applications due to a conflict of interest:
Jenifer Sandonato, Delaware Dance Company

Number of Grant Applications Reviewed: 21

Applications: (in order of review)

1. Brandywine Baroque
2. Center for the Creative Arts
3. Coastal Concerts
4. Delaware All-State Theatre
5. Delaware Dance Company
6. Delaware Institute for Arts in Education
7. Delaware Photographic Society
8. Delaware Shakespeare Festival

9. First State Ballet Theatre
10. First State Harmonizers
11. Mid-Atlantic Ballet
12. Millsboro Art League
13. Newark Arts Alliance
14. Newark Symphony
15. Possum Point Players
16. Rehoboth Beach Film Society
17. Smyrna Opera House
18. Southern Delaware Choral Society
19. VSA Delaware
20. Wilmington Ballet Academy of the Dance
21. Wilmington Drama League

General discussion was conducted at the conclusion of application review concerning the results of the ranking and funding considerations for the staff and Council. Panelists felt all applicants deserved some level of funding.

Panelists suggested that the rubric be used more directly as a guide for the narrative questions. Additionally, panelists felt it would be helpful to provide applicants with further guidance on evaluation, outreach, and collaboration. It was also suggested to include applicants' strategic plan as one of the measures in the rubric.

Grant awards will be posted on the Division website at www.arts.delaware.gov after the Delaware State Arts Council makes final funding recommendations and the FY2018 budget is adopted by the General Assembly. Panel comments for each of the applications will be available upon request once grant awards are announced.

Panel chair thanked the panelists for their time and preparation.

Meeting adjourned: 3:15 pm